

An important extension to the way of life is expected to be commenced during the year, according to employment to a large number of laborers.

It is probable, also, that during the year the construction of the Victoria Harbor will be commenced, which will be a most important addition to the harbor, and will also afford room for the long-expected extension of the harbor.

The Chinese population of the colony is estimated to be about 1,000,000, and the Chinese population of the colony is estimated to be about 1,000,000, and the Chinese population of the colony is estimated to be about 1,000,000.

The census taken January, 1897, gave a population for the whole colony of 1,000,000, showing an increase of nearly 100,000 over the census taken in 1896. This increase would not have been so much, had it not been for the visitations of the plague in 1894 and 1895, and the percentage of increase during the year just passed must, I should think, have been considerably larger than the average of the previous five years.

During 1897 the colony has been almost entirely free from plague, only a few isolated cases, numbering less than twenty in all, having occurred. With careful and judicious precautions taken, there seems little reason to fear the recurrence of the disease in epidemic form, with its disastrous interruptions to trade and progress.

It is satisfactory to note that port-litigation has been reduced from 20 cents to 1 cent per ton, the additional 15 cents having covered the special purpose for which the levy was made, namely, the completion of the construction of the Grey Lock Light. Through the representation of the United States Consul, the colonial government has relieved all foreign shipping of a tax in the form of a stamp duty on legal papers, necessary in case of sale, mortgage, or transfer of vessels.

As an outgrowth of Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee, the colonial government has promised to build a new pier, 50 miles in length, to be known as the Jubilee Pier. This pier is to be built by local taxation, and as 174 feet of all the pier must be for the purpose of the Jubilee Pier, there is some feeling over the matter. The pier, when completed, will be a great benefit to the colony, and will be a great benefit to the colony.

American trade is obtaining a hold on the colony, and with common-sense methods, it will increase from year to year. The colony is rich in oil, sugar, and other products, and it is a great benefit to the colony.

In conclusion, I think Hongkong may expect a continuance of prosperity during the present year. Whatever success may be achieved in the neighboring countries, they can hardly fail to bring material advantage to the colony.

RUSSIAN PROCLAMATION AT PORT ARTHUR.

The new Russian Governor of Liaoning has issued a proclamation to the effect that the purpose of his administration is to remove any and all obstructions to the free trade of the province, and to bring about a better understanding between the Russian and Chinese Governments.

It is to be expected that the Russian Government will be able to bring about a better understanding between the Russian and Chinese Governments, and to bring about a better understanding between the Russian and Chinese Governments.

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a return to adequate rates and our former good fortune would be largely restored. Before the adoption of the report, the share holders may wish to ask the following questions.

SPORT AND AMUSEMENT.

BY AN OLD FOGGY.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP. The championship of the colony is a most important event, and it is a great benefit to the colony.

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VISITORS AT HOTELS.

HONGKONG HOTELS.

Mr. G. A. ... Mr. J. ...

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INSURANCES.

THE HONGKONG FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1824.

CAPITAL ...

Having been appointed Agents of the above Company we are prepared to accept of all risks of fire and marine insurance.

Hongkong, 20th April, 1896.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE LONDON.

The Underwritten, having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to accept of all risks of fire and marine insurance.

Hongkong, 16th May, 1896.

AAOHEEN AND MUNICH FIRE INSURANCE CO. OF AIX-LES-BAINS.

The Underwritten, having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to accept of all risks of fire and marine insurance.

Hongkong, 21st April, 1897.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

The Underwritten AGENTS of the above Company, are prepared to accept of all risks of fire and marine insurance.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1872.

PHENIX FIRE OFFICE.

The Underwritten, having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to accept of all risks of fire and marine insurance.

Hongkong, 17th August, 1887.

SCOTTISH METROPOLITAN ASSURANCE CO.

The combined ACCIDENT and LIFE POLICY is the most ADVANTAGEOUS form of insurance.

A yearly premium of £25 (25s. per year) secures the following:

£2,000 in case of death by accident.

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BANKS.

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

The Directors of the above Bank, which is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, are pleased to announce that the interest on deposits is allowed at 3% per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of £100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4% per annum.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1895.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital ...

RESERVE FUND ...

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1896.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL ...

PAID UP CAPITAL ...

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, 12th December, 1897.

THE HONGKONG BANK OF INDIA LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL ...

RESERVE FUND ...

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, 27th October, 1897.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...

RESERVE FUND ...

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1897.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

CAPITAL PAID-UP ...

RESERVE FUND ...

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, 3rd June, 1897.

MITSUBISHI BURSAR KAISHA.

Head Office—Tokyo.

Branch Offices—London, New York, Hongkong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Kobe, and all Ports in Japan.

AGENTS.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1897.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1897.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

THE BRITISH MAIL.

The P. & O. steamer *Brig*, with the Australian mail of the 2nd instant, left Yokohama on Friday, the 22nd instant, and may be expected here on or about Thursday, the 28th instant.

The O. & A. steamer *Brig*, with the Australian mail of the 2nd instant, left Yokohama on Friday, the 22nd instant, and may be expected here on or about Thursday, the 28th instant.

The N. D. L. steamer *Brig*, with the Australian mail of the 2nd instant, left Yokohama on Friday, the 22nd instant, and may be expected here on or about Thursday, the 28th instant.

The C. P. steamer *Brig*, with the Australian mail of the 2nd instant, left Yokohama on Friday, the 22nd instant, and may be expected here on or about Thursday, the 28th instant.

Hongkong, 28th April, 1896.

THE CANADIAN MAIL.

The P. & O. steamer *Brig*, with the Australian mail of the 2nd instant, left Yokohama on Friday, the 22nd instant, and may be expected here on or about Thursday, the 28th instant.

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